21	Shri O.P. Chaudhary, Rampur (Barounsa), Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	Member
22	Shri Shyam Lal Tyagi, Advocate, District Court, Sonepat (Haryana).	Member
23	Prof. C. Narasimhappa, 522, Vth Main, P.J. Extension, Davangere (Karnataka).	Member
24	Shri Srikant Shirale, 112, Sagheer Bunglow, Opposite Police Ground, Model Colony, Pune - 16, Maharashtra.	Member

STATEMENT - II

The objectives of the Development Council are as under

1. Recommendation of targets for sugar production/formulation of standard specifications/guidelines to the specifications for plant and machinery or sugar factory incorporating the latest technology.
2. Through its Standing Research Advisory Committee, various research projects are recommended for funding through the Sugar Development Fund. Such projects are aimed at improving the technical efficiency of the factories as also the yield and quality of cane.
3. Through its Standing Advisory Committee on Sugar Standards, ISS grade samples are being prepared each year conforming to specifications prescribed by BIS.
4. Act as a forum for review of Government policies with regard to the sugar industry and make suitable recommendations for the consideration of Government.

New Pricing Policy for Fertilizers

*80. SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new Pricing Policy for fertilizers has had adverse impact on the indigenous fertilizer manufacturing Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interest of the indigenous fertilizer manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). At present, urea is the only controlled fertilizer in respect of which subsidy is paid under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). The policy parameters for the 6th Pricing effectives from 1.4.1991 are valid upto 31.3.1997. Based on a combination of norms and actuals, RPS provides for a post tax return of 12% on net-worth. The overall capacity utilization of the urea plants has shown a steady improvement in the last 3 years to attain a level of 96.7% in 1995-96.

Cell for North-East Region

554. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create a separate cell to monitor the developmental activities of the North-East region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). There is already a Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs dealing exclusively with the North-Eastern Region. The Prime Minister himself is taking keen interest in the developmental activities of the said Region. A cell for the North-East is being created in the Prime Minister's Office. This cell would monitor and coordinate the implementation of various initiatives announced by the Prime Minister regarding the North-East.

[Translation]

Reservations for SC/ST

555. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of various categories reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant in the various Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees of various categories working in Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry have been promoted in addition to the new recruitment made on some posts during the last three years;

(d) if so, details of the recruitments and promotions made on various posts in various categories during the said period, year-wise;

(e) whether the recruitment of SCs/STs has been made in accordance to the reservation rules and the SC/ST employees working there have been promoted in accordance with the reservation rules; and

(f) if not, the action being taken by the Ministry for filling up the vacant reserved posts in various categories

and for promoting the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees in accordance with the reservation rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA). (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Research and Development in Agriculture

556. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent for the purpose of research and development in Agriculture during each of the last three years. State-wise:

(b) the details of the research work being pursued in various Institutions in the country during the current year, 1996-97; and

(c) the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The amount spent on agricultural R and D by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the last three years are given below. State-wise details are not available as some of the ICAR Institutions have their sub-centres scattered in many states.

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1993-94	441.99
1994-95	494.17
1995-96	521.88

(b) and (c). Please see Statement enclosed

STATEMENT

The details of Research work being pursued and Achievement made by ICAR Institutions

The salient achievements are maintenance of 130000 accessions in Indian National Gene Bank, collection and evaluation of diversity in agri-horticulture plants and their exploitation, identification/release of number of varieties of different crops including horticultural plants of fruits and vegetables, identifying promising biological control measures for insects and integrated pest management strategy, development of technology for the production of disease free seed, post harvest technologies and equipments, finalization soil maps of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Pubjab, identifying important cropping systems, fabrication of a hydraulic conductivity meter for estimating the conductivity of compressed mud blocks development of good operated cotton giving measures for small samples, groundnut pod grader and spherical fruit grader, equipme package for honey extraction, water chestnut decorticat and chewnut sheller and process for quick cooking rice, diversified urea of lac preparing writing/printir papers, solar driers for onions location specific surfac and subsurface techniques for drainage.

In animal science 2.5 lack straws of 47 friesw bulls have been frozen, Bharat Merino Sheep with 9 percent survival and 85 percent lambing has bee identified. For improvement programmes 123 sheep have been supplied to breeder.

Hen house production of 275 eggs by ILM 90 is st a record at Random Sample test for the country. simple reliable and efficient test DOT. ELISA has bee developed for detection of *Theileria* infection under fie conditions. A number of processes have bee developed for milk products e.g. manufacture of lc cholesterol mozarolla cheese, cheese spread powe rusgulla mix, whey based mushroom soup power instant mix for pizza etc.

In fisheries major achievements are establishing running water aquaculture system consisting 27 Cister of 10 M3 capacity with control flow rate upto 201/se fabrication of low cost family operated backyard hatche for seed raising of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* achievi a record production of about 0.84 lakh fry of endanger Himalayan mahseer.

The Council has established a network of 261 Kri Vigyan Kendras in which all the transfer of technolc programmes of ICAR have been integrated for impart on-farm training in different aspects of agricultu animal science and fisheries and allied vocations. Dur the year about 2.51 lakh famers, farm women and ru youths were trained in various aspects of agricult production through extension activities of KV including field days, Kisan Melas/Goshties, grc discussions, exhibitions, women fair, clinical cam video and film shows and radio and TV covera Technologies are geneted through chain of institutic and projects to meet the requirements of farm community.

A major achievement in Agricultural Educatior setting up of Computer centres which would be lin through ARIS programme and scientists would h connectively to worldwide literature. Twelve girls hos and 8 boys hostels have been constructed, about faculty teachers from SAUs provided assistance international conferences to interact with scient overseas in selected important areas. Boarc Management of Central Agricultural Universi constituted and foundation stone for College Veterinary Science under the university Aldi. For adva training sources established 36 Centres of Adva Studies under different disciplines. Under World E assisted National Agricultural Research Projects strengthening the regional research capabilities of S. 131 scientists were trained in computer opera